"You can best serve
civilization
by being against
what usually
passes for it."

-Wendell Berry

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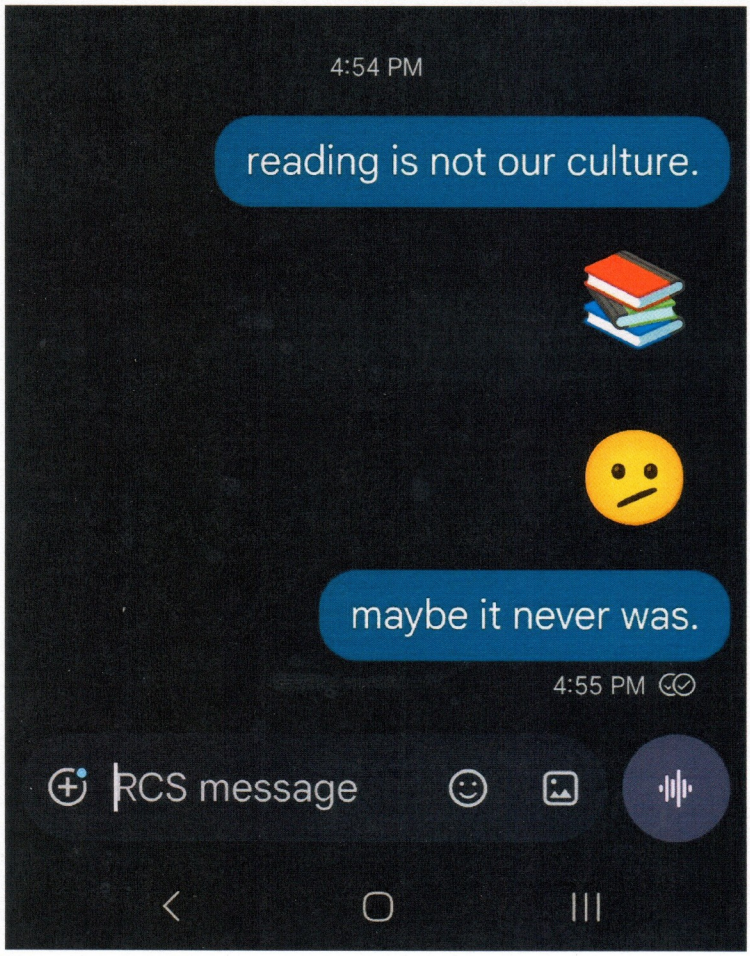
Thomas Vose, CC-BY-NC 8/26/26


4:54 PM
reading is not our culture.
maybe it never was.
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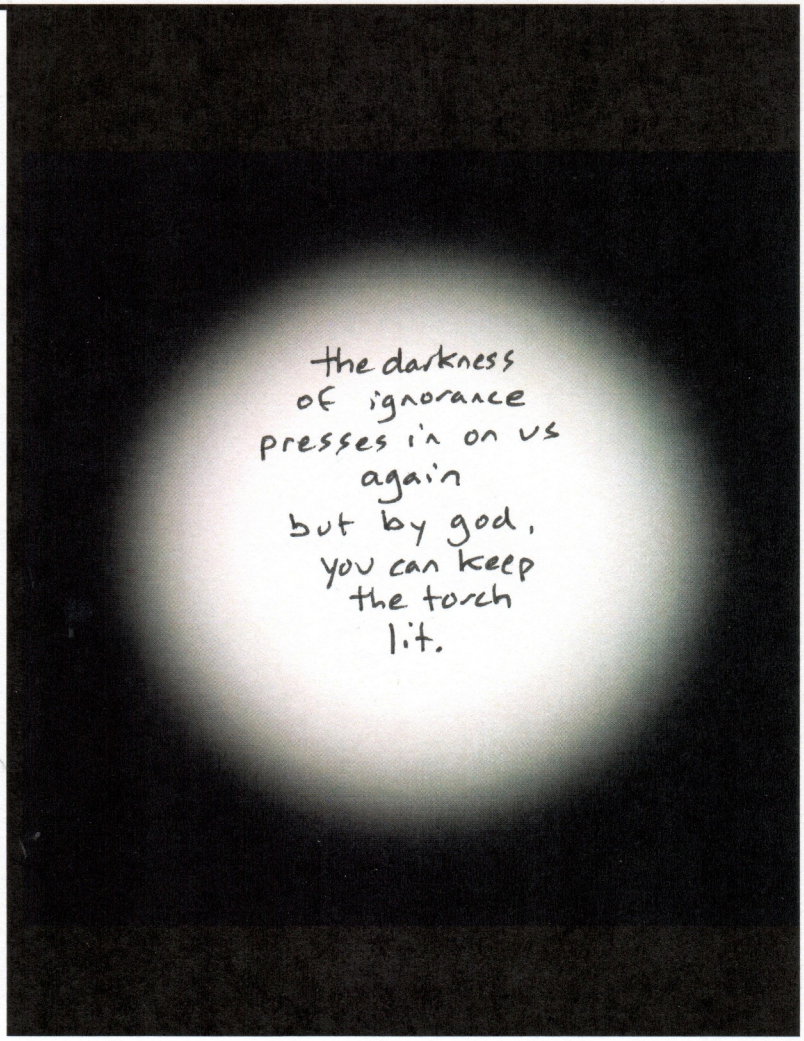
RCS message


the darkness
of ignorance
presses in on us
again
but by god,
you can keep
the torch
lit.

how long in history has mass literacy been a thing?

not bloody long, turns out.

about 75 years out of millennia.

enjoy dem ads

but they sure are good at keeping you scrolling

which is, after all the point

it turns out you retain fuck-all from short videos.

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think about it -
reading is rebellion.

people died to read

banning books is an age-old gatekeeping tactic

reading was denied to groups that were to be kept down

reading can be an act of defiance in itself.

especially now.

From this time I was most narrowly watched. If I was in a separate room any considerable length of time, I was sure to be suspected of having a book, and was at once called to give an account of myself. All this, however, was too late. The first step had been taken. Mistress, in teaching me the alphabet, had given me the *inch*, and no precaution could prevent me from taking the *ell*.

The plan which I adopted, and the one by which I was most successful, was that of making friends of all the little white boys whom I met in the street. As many of these as I could, I converted into teachers. With their kindly aid, obtained at different times and in different places, I finally succeeded in learning to read. When I

because the thing is -
reading can make you elite

and it's an elitism available freely, by choice, anytime regardless of your background or circumstances.

I am strongly tempted to give the names of two or three of those little boys, as a testimonial of the gratitude and affection I bear them; but prudence forbids; — not that it would injure me,

and the control they seek
over you
giving the finger to
tech and media
conglomerates
rejecting
the ads
the tracking
the attention economy

seeking out the things people
try to get rid of
rather than
engage with
being able to retain information
for longer than
the next three reels
in a feed
thinking critically
trying to understand things
on a deeper level
what's more rebellious now
than being able to focus

The Tyger.
especially as bots
make those who use them
intellectually lazier
and more
dependent
the groups will diverge
more
and
more
choose human thought
not the trash
a bot excretes
as cud for you to chew

but it could
be our
COUNTER-
CULTURE